

How will I be assessed?

Assessment in A Level Geography is in the form of two written exams (2 hours 30 minutes each) including multiple-choice, short answer, levelled medium level answers and extended prose. Non-examined assessment is in the form of a coursework investigation worth 20% of overall mark. At AS Level students sit 2 written exams.

**A Level Geography** (exams sat at the end of the second year)

* Component 1: Physical Geography.
* Component 2: Human Geography.
* Component 3: NEA Independent fieldwork investigation

Further details are available at:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/as-and-a-level/geography-7037/specification-at-a-glance>

What skills will I develop during this course?

Students will develop their skills in note taking, essay writing, listening, observation, recording, group activity, statistics, data presentation, data analysis and examination techniques.

Geography assignments will provide suitable material for students to include in their key skills portfolios for application of number, communication and information technology

Geographers learn a wide range of skills which makes them very adaptable and which opens up a wide range of careers opportunities.

What extra work can I do?

1. Read a quality newspaper – cut out articles on topics relevant to the syllabus and bring them to College.
2. Watch TV programmes on Geographical topics, and if possible record them.
3. Subscribe to Geography Review. This is a magazine aimed at A level geography students. Subscription details are available in the Geography rooms.

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**GEOGRAPHY** AS/A Level

AQA

What are the entry requirements?

A minimum of five GCSE subjects at Grade 4 including Geography (Higher tier preferred).

Students without Geography at GCSE are not excluded; the Department will look at their general performance at GCSE with particular reference to Mathematics and English.

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What is the course about?

What are the progression routes for this qualification?

Geography will go with a wide variety of subjects and almost any subject combination is possible.

Many students will go on from College to take a degree course in Geography or a related subject such as Environmental Science or Earth Sciences.

The growing importance of leisure and recreation activities, the increased need for resource management and the growing concern for the environment are three recent developments that will ensure a continued demand for geography students. Many students enter careers which appear to be unconnected with Geography e.g. Accountancy and Personnel Management.

What is the department like?

The Geography Department is based in two large classrooms in the Goodridge Building with fully up to date I.T facilities in each room.

The staff are enthusiastic about Geography and provide motivating and inspiring lessons across the course in supporting student learning and progression.

There are typically around 300 students in Geography, 40 on the AS course and 160 on the A Level course. The vast majority of our students achieve a good pass grade.

The teaching is done using a variety of approaches designed to suit different abilities and learning styles. We try hard to help any student with his or her own learning difficulties such as dyslexia and to stretch those with high academic ability. Fieldwork and visiting speakers are built into the course.

The Geography course aims to inspire and equip students with a variety of skills to prepare them for Higher Education and employment opportunities.

What sort of work will I be doing?

Students will experience a wide range of teaching and learning strategies which will develop the skills required by the syllabus. A wide range of materials and resources will be used. Throughout the course students will be encouraged to take an active and constructive part in classroom discussions and exercises.

Practical work and fieldwork form essential parts of the course with a 5-day residential field trip arranged in the first year. An optional fieldtrip to Iceland may be available in the 2nd year. The departmental fieldwork programme has proved to be highly successful with outstanding examination results in recent years.

We are offering the AQA A/AS level Geography specification.

**Paper 1:**

* Water and Carbon Cycles
* Coastal Systems and Landscapes
* Hazards

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**Paper 2:**

* Contemporary Urban Environments
* Changing Places.
* Global Systems and Global Governance

**Paper 3:**

* Independent Investigation (Coursework).

This A/AS level Geography course includes four compulsory fieldwork days, costing approximately £350.

What are the entry requirements?

A minimum of five GCSE subjects at minimum Grade 4, including:

* Geography
* Mathematics
* English

Students without Geography at GCSE are not excluded; the Department will look at their general performance at GCSE with particular reference to Mathematics and English.

